

**EU reply to CL 2024/69-FFP**

**Proposed amendment of the Standard for Canned Sardines and Sardine-Type Products  
(CXS 94-1981)**

**European Union Competence**

**European Union Vote**

The European Union (EU) would like to thank the Philippines, chair of the Electronic Working Work (EWG), for the efforts and work carried out to produce the report. It has been an honour for the EU to co-chair this EWG.

The EU supports the inclusion of the candidate species *Sardinella lemuru* in Section 2.1, Product Definition, of the Standard for Canned Sardines and Sardine-Type Products (CXS 94- 1981).

**Rationale:**

- A sensory evaluation has been carried out by designated laboratories following appropriate methods. The result of that assessment is favourable to the inclusion of the candidate species in the Codex Standard.
- In terms of sustainability, the EU's goal is to ensure long-term sustainability for fisheries and aquaculture. The EU has encouraged through the Regional Fisheries Management Organisation's (RFMO) improved sustainability to their fisheries management and control systems. However, the species proposed in this instance is not included within the framework of these RFMOs and we do not have access to any source of information regarding the status of the stock. On the other hand, FAO confirmed that *S. lemuru* stocks could not be considered of particular concern compared to other species listed in the Standard for Canned Sardines and Sardine-Type Products (CXS 94-1981). FAO also acknowledged the fisheries management plan adopted by the Philippines to ensure that stocks are exploited at their optimal biological potential. Hence, the EU has not got any additional comments to make concerning the sustainability of the species.